

MEETING SUMMARY

Preservation Partners Task Force
Tuesday, 28 March 2006

1. Call to Order
Attending: Ron Anzalone, Peter Behr, Charles Moore, Ruth Rodgers, Kevin Lee Sarring, Samuel Starr, and Catherine Taylor. Councilmember Snyder and Debra Gee (staff) were also present.
2. Approval of Meeting Summary of 7 March 2006
The Meeting Summary was approved as presented.
3. Discuss and Act on the Task Force Work Plan and Timetable
After discussion, adopted Work Plan and Timetable as presented, except with the addition of item 6.d.:
 1. Current Ordinance
 - a. Review its strengths and limitations
 - i. What actions are permitted and not permitted?
 - ii. Is it adequate for addressing current residential and commercial development trends?
 2. Options for Future Council Action
 - a. Expand list of certified properties
 - i. Extend coverage under existing ordinance to December 1930
 - ii. Adopt rolling 50-year coverage under existing ordinance
 - iii. Add selected high-priority properties under existing ordinance
 - b. Expand HARB's authority to cover major renovations of and additions to certified properties
 - c. Create protective buffer zones around high-priority properties
 - d. Consider seeking protective easements on certified properties: consider tax relief on such properties
 - e. Fulfill requirements for CLG status
 - f. Create special historic districts within the city with unique historic protection provisions
 - g. Expand the architectural guidelines affecting renovations to certified properties
 - h. Create a process for identifying and protecting significant archaeological sites
 3. Budget Needs
 - a. Determine the implications for the city budget of new historic protection initiatives; consider hiring outside consultants for expert advice on legal issues or other matters
 4. Timetable
 - a. April 1 to May 15: Complete fact-finding and initiate the Task Force's consideration of action options
 - b. May 16 to June 30: Invite the public and key community organizations to attend work sessions
 - c. Complete discussions of options and vote on an action plan; Late May - early

- June: Public hearing(s) on plan
- d. Late June: Work session with Council
- e. July 1 to July 31: Complete the report and submit to Council
- 5. Classify Options as Short or long Range.
 - a. Short range options could be accomplished by amending the existing city ordinance. These options hopefully could be enacted within a year if Council approved.
 - b. Long range options could require Council to revoke the existing ordinance and enact a new one. This process could take a number of years
- 6. Establish Task Force Research Committees
 - a. Historic Properties Protection Strategies: review strengths and weaknesses of Falls Church ordinance (**Peter Behr**); review best practices in other communities including historic easements and tax relief incentives (**Ruth Rodgers**); describe community-wide economic costs and benefits of program expansion (unassigned)
 - b. Legislation and Regulation: review legal and regulatory implications of expanded Historic Protection program (**Kevin Lee Sarring**); describe CLG qualification process (wait to hear from **Camille Bowman**, Virginia Department of Historic Resources CLG Coordinator)
 - c. Falls Church Historic Properties Inventory: develop proposals for expanding the list of certified historic properties, including funding strategies (**Ron Anzalone and Charlie Moore**)
 - d. Outreach and Advocacy: (**Catherine Taylor**)

FOLLOW UP: ► During the discussion of the work plan, Councilmember Snyder requested the Preservation Partners Task Force to provide comments on historic preservation of structures and potential archaeological resources located in the City Center.

► Chair Behr requested the HARB and the Historical Commission to provide their comments on the City Center for consideration by the Task Force.

► Ron Anzalone requested the date of construction of the Christian Science Reading Room located at 123 Little Falls Street.

- 4. Review Plans for April 11 Meeting
Camille Bowman, CLG Coordinator for the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, is confirmed.
 - Staff was requested to invite Lisa Burcham to attend the April 11 meeting.
 - Staff was requested to invite City Councilmembers to attend the April 11 meeting.

5. Set Dates for Future Meetings
Deferred until April 11, 2006.
6. Adjourn.
The meeting adjourned at 9:38 PM.